



# Lincoln Lore

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## A Unique Lincoln Funeral Item

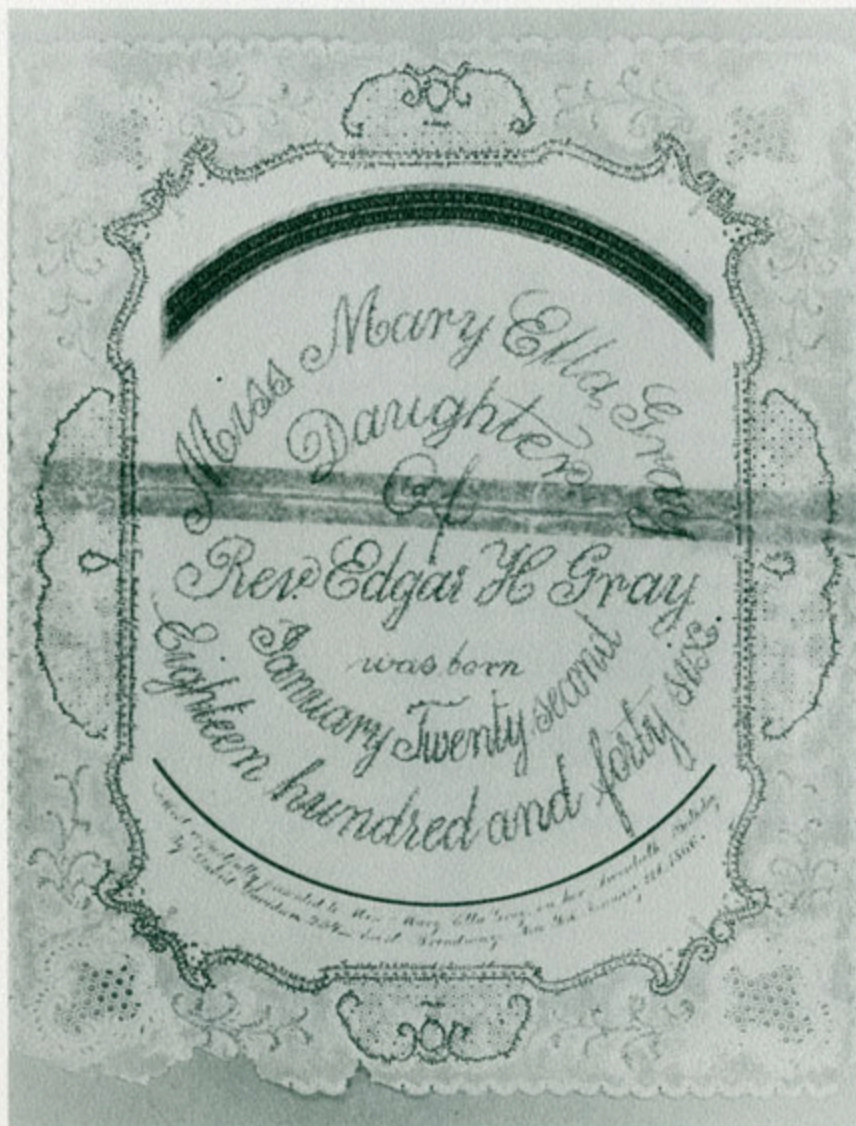
**Editor's Note:** The editor is particularly indebted to Miss Helen Stemen of the library staff for her work in reading the minute script on the paper doily and for drawing the diagram which indicates the location of the text.

The Rev. Dr. Edgar Harkness Gray is remembered by Lincoln students as the pastor of the E Street Baptist Church of Washington, D. C., who offered a fervent prayer at the close of the Lincoln funeral service held in the East Room of the Executive Mansion on Wednesday morning, April 19, 1865. Dr. Gray was well qualified to serve as an officiating clergyman at the Lincoln funeral service as he was the Chaplain of the United States Senate, a position he held during both the Lincoln and Johnson administrations.

Dr. Gray's closing prayer was published in *The Washington Weekly Chronicle*, of Saturday, April 22, 1865, along with the order of the funeral procession from the Executive Mansion to the Rotunda of the United States Capitol.

This Baptist clergyman had a daughter named Mary Ella Gray who was born on January 22, 1846. Apparently, she was attractive and had a suitor named David Davidson, who resided at 234 East Broadway in New York City. If Davidson was not a suitor, at least he was a very dear friend. About all we know of Miss Gray is that she died at the age of twenty-three.

On the occasion of Miss Gray's twentieth birthday



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

This original paper doily was presented to the Library-museum of the Lincoln National Life Foundation by Mrs. Alphonse Martines, 1206 North Kirkwood Road, Kirkwood, Missouri, a great grand daughter of Dr. Edgar Harkness Gray.

Davidson presented her with a hand-engraved paper doily that must have required many hours of tedious and meticulous work to prepare. Throughout its attractive embossed design Davidson incorporated the words of "The Closing Prayer of The Rev. Dr. Gray, And The Order of The Procession At The Funeral of President Abraham Lincoln, April 21, 1865."

The words written into the design of the doily constitute almost two and two-thirds' columns of print in *The Washington Weekly Chronicle* of April 22, 1865 (see page 8). With the use of a magnifying glass and photographic enlargements of the doily, the library staff checked Davidson's hand-engraved letters with the original newspaper article. In the recorded account which follows, certain discrepancies were found, and these are indicated in *italics*. Where words or names were omitted by Davidson, they have been added by using the newspaper article as a reference.

Having completed the diagram the artist ended his work in the middle of a sentence. Of course, the engraving on the doily has no logical beginning or ending, but it does constitute one of the most unique Lincoln funeral relics in the Foundation's collection. However, this is not the only example extant of Davidson's work. The artist presented Dr. Gray with a similar paper doily dated December 4, 1865 which contains his Senate prayer at the opening of the Thirty-ninth Congress.



The complete wording (Note numbered text and area location on diagram) inscribed on the doily follows: "(1) When the speaker closed there was a moment of silence, followed by a general movement; and ere they had stilled again, Dr. Gray, the chaplain of the United States Senate, had taken the place of Dr. Gurley, where he offered the following Closing Prayer.

"O Lord God of Hosts, behold a nation prostrate before Thy Throne, clothed in sackcloth, who stand around all that now remains of our illustrious and beloved Chief. We thank Thee that Thou hast given to us such a patriot, and to the country such a ruler, and to the world such a noble specimen of manhood. We bless Thee that thou hast raised him to the highest position of trust and power in the nation; and that Thou hast spared him so long to guide and direct the affairs of the Government in its hour of peril and conflict. We trusted it would be he who should deliver Israel, that he would have been retained to us while the nation was passing through its baptism of blood; but in an evil hour, in an unexpected moment, when joy and rejoicing fill our souls, and was thrilling the heart of the nation, he fell. O God, Give grace to sustain us under this dark and mysterious providence! Help us to look unto Thee and say, Not our will, but Thine, O God, be done. We commend to Thy merciful regard and tender compassion the afflicted family of the deceased. Thou seest how their hearts are stricken with sorrow and wrung with agony. O help them, as they are now passing through the dark valley and shadow of death, to fear no evil, but to lean upon Thy rod and staff for support. O help them to cast the burden upon thy Great Burden-bearer, and find relief. Help them to look beyond human agencies and human means, and recognize thy hand, O, God, in this providence, and say: It is the Lord let him do what seemeth good in his sight; and as they proceed slowly and sadly on their way with the remains of a husband and father, to consign them to their last resting place, may they look beyond the grave to the morning of Resurrection, when that which they now sow in weakness shall be raised in strength; what they now sow a mortal body shall be raised a spiritual body; that they now sow in corruption shall be raised in incorruption, and shall be fashioned like unto Christ's most glorious body. O God of the bereaved, Comfort and Sustain this mourning family. Bless the *new* Chief Magistrate. Let the mantle of his predecessor fall upon him. Bless the Secretary of State and his family. O God, if possible according to thy will, spare their lives, that they may render still important service to the country. Bless all the members of the Cabinet. Endow them with wisdom from above. Bless the commanders of our army and navy, and all the brave defenders of the country, and give them continued success. Bless the ambassadors from foreign courts, and give us peace with the nations of the earth. O God, let treason, that has deluged our land with blood, and devastated our country, and bereaved our homes, and filled them with widows and orphans, and has at length culminated in the assassination of the nation's chosen ruler, — God of justice, and avenger of the nation's wrongs, let the work of treason cease, and let the guilty author of this horrible crime be arrested and brought to justice. O hear the cry and the prayer and the tears now arising from a nation's crushed and smitten heart, and deliver us from the power of all our enemies, and send speedy peace unto all our borders, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

#### Removal of the Body

The prayer being ended, a detailed detachment of the veteran reserve corps entered the room, and, the coffin having been closed, conveyed it from the catafalco (sic.) to the funeral car awaiting it at the main entrance to the mansion. As soon as it was placed upon the car, the gentlemen in the east room passed out in their appointed order, fell into their assigned places, and the funeral

cortege passed on in the broad sunlight to Pennsylvania Avenue.

At three o'clock the crowd was as densely packed as possible, throughout the entire length of the procession, from the presidential mansion to the Capitol, a distance of a mile. Every roof, window, doorway, balcony, and step, as well as the pavements and the portion of the street between the curbs, upon which the eager spectators could not be prevented from somewhat infringing, was overwhelmingly crowded. The spectacle was grand beyond (sic.) description, and the demonstrations of the people as the funeral cortege (sic.) passed, were most touching. The colored people formed a large portion of the crowd, and their tearful eyes and sorrowful countenances, as the hearse which contained the remains of their friend and liberator passed, only expressed the mourning of the nation over the death of its best defender.

#### Order of Procession.

The Procession, as it left the presidential mansion was formed and marched in the following order . . .

Tenth Veteran Reserve Corps, *Colonel Gile* (omitted) with Regimental bands, Ninth Veteran Reserve Corps, *Colonel Gile* with Regimental band. Battalion of Marine Corps, and band. Two Batteries Eightyfourth United States Artillery. Sixteenth New York Cavalry, *Colonel Sweitzer*. Eighth Illinois Cavalry, *Colonel Clendenin*. Thirteenth New York Mounted band. *General Ketchum*, and Staff. *General Slough* and Staff. Commander of Escort and Staff, mounted. Navy officers on foot. Army officers on foot. Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons, on foot. Cavalry and Infantry officers, mounted. Clergy. *General Grant* and officers, in carriage. Catafalco (sic.) containing corpse, and guarded by *First Virginia Artillery*, on foot. President's horse, gray, with boots of President in stirrups. President's guard. Six carriages, single file, containing the Relatives of the deceased. The Delegations of the States of Illinois and Kentucky, as mourners. The President. The Cabinet Ministers. Foreign Legations. Senators and Congressmen. The Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court and city courts. The Assistant Secretaries of the different departments. Knights Templar and Band. Philadelphia City Councils. Presidents of the Christian and Sanitary Commissions. *Satterlee's Band* of Philadelphia. *Perseverance Hose Company*, No. 5, of Philadelphia. Washington city councils. Citizens of Washington. Fourth United States Battery and Band. Delegations representing Ohio, New Jersey



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Diagram of paper doily drawn by Helen Stemen indicating numbered areas of the text.



and California. (2) Clerks of the Treasury Department. Clerks of the Ordnance Department. Clerks of the Post Office Department. Clerks of the War Department. Clerks of the Interior Department. Army Surgeons, mounted. Battalion of the Quartermaster General's office, and band. Baltimore City Councils and Custom House officers. Quartermaster's Band. Fenian Brotherhood. First Regiment Meigs Home Guard. *Second Regiment Meigs Home Guard*. Emplies (sic.) Quartermaster General's office. Eighth Illinois Calvary Band. United States Military Railroad Employees. (3) National Republican *Union* Association of the Seventh Ward. Citizens of Alexandria with band; also Friendship No. 1, and Sun No. 2, *First/Fire* companies of the same city. Potomac Hose Company Georgetown. Mount Vernon Association of Alexandria, Va. Lincoln Hospital Soldiers. Mechanics and Workmen from Mt. Clare, Baltimore. Baltimore and Ohio Railroad employes. Finley Hospital Band and (4) Soldiers of Hospital. Arsenal employes. Roman catholic (sic.) schools, led by Father Wiget. Gonzaga and Georgetown Colleges. Merrith's Band. East Baltimore Union League. Hebrew Congregation. Turners. Baltimore City Cornet Band. Order of Ancient Good Fellows. Federal City Division No. 2, Sons of Temperance, Followed by Carver Hospital Band. Good Samaritan, No. 1. Aurora Division, No. 9; Equal Division, No. 4; Lincoln Division, No. 17; Central Division, No. 12; Empire Division, No. 19; Hope Division, No. 18; Everett Division, No. 25; (5) Mount Vernon Division; Grand Division; 1500 in all. Mount Pleasant Band. Columbia Typographical Society. Emory Hospital Band, and soldiers of hospital. Washington United Benevolent Association (colored). Harmony Lodge, No. 18, G.U.O. of O.F. (colored). King Hezekiah's pasture, No. 3, F.A.A.M. (colored). Union Grand Lodge, F.A.A.M. (colored). Citizens and strangers. The 22nd Pennsylvania colored infantry, Colonel Terry commanding, direct from Petersburg, arrived (6) in town yesterday noon, and took a position on the Avenue, near Sixth Street. This regiment was recently under General Weitzel, and was the second to enter Richmond. (7) As the head of the column approached where the 22nd was standing at rest, the band struck up a dirge, and the regiment immediately moved forward, thereby becoming the head of the procession.

#### *The Funeral March.*

(8) The grand and beautiful funeral march, performed for the first time by the United States Marine Band, in the obsequies of our deceased and beloved Chief Magistrate, was (9) composed and dedicated to the occasion by Brevet Major General J. G. Bernard.

#### *Paroled Officers.*

Some 450 Paroled officers, of every grade and arm of the service, arrived from Camp Parole, Annapolis, *early yesterday morning*. (10) They were under the command of Brigad General Chamberlin, and having met in front of the Executive Mansion at noon, (11) joined in the funeral procession.

#### *Municipal and Other Visitors.*

A joint committee of the Aldermen and Common Council of New York arrived in Washington yesterday (12) morning, and stopped at the Seaton House. They were received by a committee of the Common Council of the District, (13) and formed in procession with the Common Council of Washington. Alderman Brice was chairman of the Committee, (14) and Owen Cavanaugh secretary. The badge worn by the committee was handsomely draped, the device being the coat of arms of the

city, (15) having engraved thereon the respective names of the members of the body. The badge was about two inches in circum (16) ference, and remarkably neat and appropriate in its appearance. The members of this company constitute a fine (17) looking body of men. The Philadelphia City Councils, the Committee of the Union League Club of New York . . .

## Lincoln Statue Unveiled in Mexico City



*United Press International*

**Lincoln statue by Saint-Gaudens unveiled in Mexico City, Mexico on April 15, 1966. President and Mrs. Lyndon Johnson stand at each side of the statue pedestal.**

On April 15, 1966 a statue of Abraham Lincoln was unveiled in Mexico City.\* The heroic bronze figure is a gift from the people of the United States to the people of Mexico. The dedication was attended by President Lyndon B. Johnson and President Gustavo Diaz-Ordaz of Mexico, along with other notable citizens of both the United States and Mexico.

The statue is a replica of the work of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, the original of which is located in Lincoln Park, Chicago, Illinois. The Chicago statue was

dedicated on October 22, 1887. The cost of the original project, which amounted to \$40,000, was financed by a wealthy lumberman, Eli Gates, who died in 1881. The Lincoln Park statue setting, described as the "Mecca of Lincoln worshippers," was the joint work of Saint-Gaudens and the architect, Stanford White.

There is also a replica of the Saint-Gaudens Lincoln statue in London, England. It was unveiled on July 28, 1920 within the "shadows of Westminster Abbey." This statue was presented to the British people in 1914 by the American National Committee "for the celebration of the Centenary of the Treaty of Ghent and the completion of one hundred years of peace between these two English speaking peoples." Those taking part in the dedication program were Viscount Bryce, Elihu Root and David Lloyd George.

The Mexico City statue, valued at \$150,000, is located in a new Lincoln Park in the Polenco residential area of the capital city. The site was chosen jointly by the Mexican and United States Governments.

A United States delegation, including ten members of Congress, headed officially by Mrs. Johnson and Secretary of State Dean Rusk, was in attendance at the dedication; however, President Johnson was the ranking member. The President of Mexico unveiled a bronze plaque adjacent to the statue, before Mrs. Johnson unveiled the

\*On April 10, 1964 a new heroic bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln by Angel Tarrac was dedicated in Juarez, Mexico. (See *Lincoln Lore* No. 1515, May, 1964, page 3)



Lincoln figure on its marble base. Mrs. Johnson spoke briefly in Spanish, expressing "her own affection and the friendship of the United States for Mexico." Dr. Antonio Carrillo Flores, Mexico's foreign relations secretary, received the Lincoln statue in behalf of the Mexican people.

Press reports of the dedicatory speeches indicate that very little was said by the United States or Mexican citizens about Abraham Lincoln or Augustus Saint-Gaudens. This was not the case on October 22, 1887 when the Chicago Park Commissioners, in the name of the public, accepted from the Bates trustees the splendid statue. Leonard Swett, a leader of the Chicago bar who had ridden the Eighth Judicial Circuit with Lincoln, gave the official address. His speech was interwoven "with references to his personal intimacy with his old friend."

The cord which loosened the huge flag covering the bronze statue was pulled by a fifteen year old boy named Abraham Lincoln, the son of Robert Todd Lincoln and the grandson of the Sixteenth President. According to the reports of that day there was no applause; instead, there was a "deep hush" broken by cheers which came later, and "tears were shed by many who had known the man in life."

The late F. Lauriston Bullard, in his book "Lincoln in Marble and Bronze," described the reaction of the vast Chicago audience once the Saint-Gaudens Lincoln statue was in clear view:

"They looked at the symbol of the office he had held and of the cause he had represented. The choir was not merely an ornamental accessory, but an essential element in the composition, inseparable from the statue itself. The people had heard the chairman of the trustees say in his presentation speech that it had been the sculptor's purpose 'to present Lincoln, the President, burdened with the responsibilities of the hour, giving audience to a delegation of the people, who presented for his consideration matters of great public concern'. It is a thoughtful Lincoln who stands before them. He is pondering. Presently he will lift his head and tell them, out of his greater knowledge of the conditions besetting the Administration, all that he can safely publicize, and why he may not be able to grant all they ask."

In 1952 Bullard wrote that "Ever since the day of dedication, men and women from every corner of the Union and from all the lands of the globe have gone to Lincoln Park to look upon that statue. It was instantly recognized as a great work of art. It is so regarded today. It has never been surpassed as a portrait in bronze or marble of

the best loved of all Americans. We have many noble sculptured 'Lincolns' today, but it is a question — one of those questions that can never be conclusively decided — if any of them equals this in the beauty of its conception and the artistry of its execution."

And now a word about the artist whose biographical sketch covers over six pages in the Dictionary of American Biography:

"Augustus Saint-Gaudens (March 1, 1848-August 3, 1907), sculptor, owed his salience in American Art to a dual significance in his work. It was rooted primarily in intrinsic gifts and then in the influence which he exercised upon his contemporaries. He was a recognized *chef d'ecole*, long leading and accelerating the movement liberating sculpture in the United States from an arid convention. There had been distinguished men before him and one of them, whom he came to know in his young manhood, J. Q. A. Ward, an artist of very high abilities, had already pointed the way promising escape from a thin academic hypothesis. But it was left to Saint-Gaudens to

effect the essential modernization of a school, to gather up the elements of progress and illustrate their potency through large and varied achievements."

Despite the excellence of Saint-Gaudens' standing Lincoln, this statue is superseded in excellence by his impressive figure, "Grief," for the Adams Memorial in Rock Creek Cemetery, Washington, D.C., which has been described as "An idealization complete and absolute, the rendering of a simple, natural fact — a woman in grief."



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Lincoln statue by Saint-Gaudens unveiled in London, England on July 28, 1920.



From the Chicago Historical Society

Lincoln statue by Saint-Gaudens unveiled in Chicago, Illinois on October 22, 1887.